

## FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK

# Twenty-Ninth Sunday in Ordinary Time: OCTOBER 16/17, 2021

Dear Parishioners,

In the next few weeks, I will share with you some of the "Renew My Church" key points.

#### **BUILDING THE NEW REALITY**

With the structural, operational, financial, and personnel foundations in place, the grouping parishes focus on three critical steps supporting parish vitality; developing a parish core leadership team, building and fostering a culture of evangelization and a long-term pastoral plan for making disciples, building communities, and inspiring witnesses.

### PARISH CORE LEADERSHIP TEAM

Many of our parishes are blessed with lay leaders who work side by side with their priests, deacons, and religious in bringing people closer to Christ. Fundamental to parish renewal is ensuring that every parish has a core leadership team of five to seven leaders supporting and implementing the "Renew My Church" vision. This team will be coached and accompanied by Archdiocesan resources to thoughtfully develop and consistently implement a pastoral plan centered on our mission imperatives.

#### **DIVINE RENOVATION**

During the pilot program, we are working with Divine Renovation Ministries with our newly-formed parishes that have already advanced through the first two phases of the parish grouping process. Divine Renovation Ministries was founded by Fr. James Mallon, who, along with the team at Saint Benedict Parish in Halifax, Canada, transformed his parish into a vibrant community of missionary disciples. Divine Renovation (DR) is not a program, it is a process for helping the parish core leadership team apply successful experiences from Catholic communities around the world to ensure the best ideas for parish vitality are pursued.

In the coming weeks, we will ask people to gather to discuss Fr. Mallon's book to learn more about how we can become Missionary Disciples.

Sincerely,

Fr. Mike Meany

